GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3752
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY PROJECT
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH;DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI;PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY;RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Agricultural Technology project has started on pilot basis in six States for testing new institutional arrangements for technology dissemination;

(b) if so, the impact on the project achieved in the introduced States;

(c) whether the Government are considering to expand it to other States as well; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) Yes, Sir. Implementation of Innovation in Technology Dissemination (ITD) Component of the National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) has commenced in six States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Punjab.

(b) Impact achieved in the Pilot districts inter-alia include the following;

i) New institutional arrangements for technology dissemination are operationalised by establishing Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) as autonomous bodies at district level representing stake holders responsible for technology dissemination. Also Block Technology Teams (BTTs) and Farmers Advisory Committees (FACs) at Blocks have been set-up and Farmers Interests Groups (FIGs) are being formed at village level to achieve integrated, farmer responsive and speedy technology dissemenation.

ii) Strategic Research and Extension plans (SREPs) have been developed after consultation with farmers, to reflect the felt-needs of the farming community, such that research and extension agendas are demand-driven in a `bottom-up` mode. Programmes and activities include field demonstrations, trainings, exposure visits to successful programmes, assessment and refinement of technology, organisation of farmers groups, etc.

iii) Application of Information Technology including conectivity amongst various Project Implementing Agencies is being promoted to improve information access to the farmers.

iv) Research-Extension-Farmer Linkages are being strengthened to achieve adoption of latest technology.

v) Private Extension Service providers such as Non-government organisations, Farmers/women Farmers Organisations are being supported to facilitate technology transfer to farmers.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.